

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-12

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FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, IR

SUBJECT: NUCLEAR ENERGY ADMINISTRATION

REF: A. TEHRAN 2503 B. STATE 64171

1. IN RESPONSE TO QUERY REFTEL B, PARA 2, SCIATT MET WITH DR. AMNOOCHEHR ZIRAKZADEH, DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR RESEARCH, MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND HIGHER EDUCATION, ON APRIL 9 AND ON APRIL 10 WITH DR. AKBAR ETEMAD, DESIGNATED BY SHAH TO HEAD STUDY GROUP ON AN ATOMIC ENERGY AUTHORITY FOR IRAN.

2. THE MINISTRY HAD HAD FORMATION OF AN ATOMIC ENERGY AUTHORITY UNDER CONSIDERATION FOR TWO YEARS, BUT ITS INABILITY TO FINALIZE ITS RECOMMENDATIONS LED TO DR. ETEMAD'S APPOINTMENT.

3. THE ENGLISH NAME OF THE AUTHORITY WILL BE "ATOMIC ENERGY ORGANIZATION OF IRAN", AND A BILL FOR ITS ESTABLISHMENT WILL BE SUBMITTED TO PARLIAMENT LATER THIS WEEK AFTER REVIEW BY THE CABINET. GIVEN THE PRIORITY THIS BILL WILL ENJOY, IT SHOULD BECOME LAW IN ABOUT EIGHT WEEKS. DR. ETEMAD ANTICIPATES APPOINTMENT AS ASSISTANT PRIME MINISTER AND LATER ALSO AS PRESIDENT OF THE NEW ORGANIZATION. HE WILL RESIGN FROM HIS CURRENT POST AS CHANCELLOR OF BU-ALI SINA UNIVERSITY.

4. THE ORGANIZATION WILL HAVE BOTH DEVELOPMENTAL AND REGULATOR FUNCTIONS. THE GOVERNING ORGAN WILL BE A HIGH COUNCIL OF ATOMIC

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ENERGY COMPOSED OF THE PRIME MINISTER, THE MINISTER OF WATER AND

POWER, THE MINISTER OF FINANCE, THE MINISTER OF ECONOMY, THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES, THE DIRECTOR OF THE PLAN AND BUDGET ORGANIZATION, THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND HIGHER EDUCATION, THE DIRECTOR OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT, THE DIRECTOR OF THE ATOMIC ENERGY ORGANIZATION, AND FOUR ATOMIC EXPERTS.

5. IN ADDITION TO RESPONSIBILITIES WHICH WOULD BE EXPECTED, SUCH AS DEVELOPMENT OF NUCLEAR POWER FOR THE NATIONAL GRID, ATOMIC RESEARCH, TRAINING OF SPECIALISTS, AND APPLICATIONS IN MEDICINE AND AGRICULTURE, THE TEHRAN PRESS OF APRIL 14 REPORTS THE ORGANIZATION WILL PROBE THE USE OF OTHER SOURCES OF ENERGY, SUCH AS SOLAR AND TIDAL ENERGY, WILL REPRESENT IRAN IN INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY CONFERENCES, AND WILL HAVE AUTHORITY TO DETERMINE IRAN'S PARTICIPATION IN JOINT PROJECTS.

6. AT THIS TIME, DR. ETEMAD'S PRIMARY CONCERN, ASIDE FROM SEEING THAT HIS RECOMMENDATIONS BECOME LAW, IS TO LOCATE IRANIAN EXPATRIATES WHO HAVE EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE IN THE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGIES PERTINENT TO THE FUNCTIONS OF THE NEW ATOMIC ENERGY ORGANIZATION. HE WILL WRITE TO THE INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION IN NEW YORK IN THIS REGARD BUT WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE ANY HELP THE U.S. GOVERNMENT MIGHT BE ABLE TO PROVIDE.

7. ACTION REQUESTED: DEPARTMENT IS REQUESTED TO CONTACT APPROPRIATE OFFICES IN THE AEC, THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION, AND NSF FOR POSSIBLE ASSISTANCE TO DR. ETEMAD IN THIS QUEST.
HELMS

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